

Application No. 09/763,882
Response dated June 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 5, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title as follows:

ABSORBENT BREAST PAD

Please amend the abstract beginning at page 32 as follows:

An object of the present invention is to provide a breast pad which avoids discomfort hard feelings caused by thermal deformations and heat treatments. In considering this, the breast pad of the present invention has a main body formed by laminating and fixing together a liquid-absorbing member 12, a waterproof member 11 disposed at an outside of the liquid-absorbing member and a surface member 13 disposed on a surface of the liquid-absorbing member opposite to a surface on which the waterproof member is disposed. The main body further includes elastic members 17, 17 each disposed on a respective side edge portion of the main body, and side edges 13a of the surface members to be disposed at a user's skin side are folded so as to embrace side edges of the liquid-absorbing member therein.

Please amend the paragraph of the specification beginning at page 4, line 4, as follows:

In addition, the second object of the present invention is to provide a dome-shaped breast pad which has not been formed by a heat treatment process, so as to avoid discomfort associated with materials which have been subjected to whereby hard feelings can be avoided due to heat deformation and/or heat treatment treating materials.

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Please amend the paragraph of the specification beginning at page 6, line 19, as follows:

With the structure of claim 4, since the surface member comes in contact with a user's breast because of the action of the cushion member, it is difficult for the breast pad to slip out of its location ~~the breast pad is hard to slip out of its location.~~

Please amend the paragraph of the specification beginning at page 8, line 13, as follows:

Accordingly, in the structure of the above-mentioned claim 6, the side edge portions of the surface member to be disposed at a user's skin side are folded so as to embrace side edges of the liquid-absorbing member therein. With this structure, since the side edges of the breast pad are covered by relatively soft materials, a user will not experience discomfort ~~unpleasant feelings will not be given to a user even if the relatively soft materials come in contact with a user's skin.~~

Please amend the paragraph of the specification beginning at page 13, line 1, as follows:

The above-mentioned waterproof member 11 is a back-sheet and is fixed to the upper side member shown in Fig. 3 by applying adhesive on a portion of an adhering part 11a. Although the waterproof member 11 does not allow water to pass through, it is preferably made of materials which allow vapor to pass through to thereby prevent getting musty and has a certain level of flexibility. The waterproof member 11 is comprised of softer materials compared with conventional thermally deformable waterproof members. Examples of such materials include polyethylene film, polyethylene lamination nonwoven fabric, nonwoven fabric produced by a method of meltblowing ~~meltblow~~ and the like.